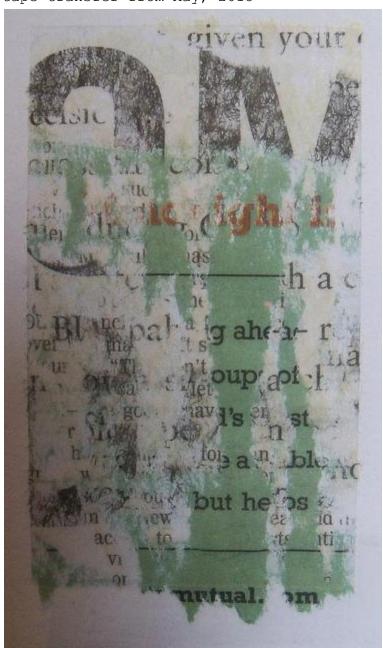
Six Months Aint No Sentence 2016 Jim Leftwich

Book 162

tape transfer from May, 2015



We heard the Sermon on the Mount and I knew it was too complex It didn't amount to anything more than what the broken glass reflects When you bite off more than you can chew you pay the penalty Somebody's got to tell the tale, I guess it must be up to me ----Bob Dylan, Up To Me, 1974

Spontaneous Poetics - 62 (William Carlos Williams 6)

[Allen reads Williams' "Horned Purple" - "This is the time of year/ when boys fifteen and seventeen/ wear two horned lilac blossoms/ in their caps - or over one ear"..."Out of their sweet heads/ dark kisses, rough faces" - That's really generous to notice that. That's nice for an old doctor to notice that little bit of eros and ancient satyrical archetype in Rutherford, New Jersey. But, "It is only in isolate flecks that/ something is/ given off" so the perception becomes more and more refined to recollect the "isolate flecks" as, working in the hospital, perhaps glancing out of the window, he saw "Between Walls" [Allen reads Williams' poem of that title] - "the back wings/ of the/ hospital where/nothing/ will grow lie/ cinders/ in which shine/the broken/ pieces of a green bottle"] - I'll read that again because I was spaced-out when I was reading it [Allen reads the poem again] - And that's always been compared to a celebrated Chinese poem, observing the beauty of an individual flower, solitary tree, or individual flower in a spot. It's almost like (an) adaptation of a traditional haiku, or (written in the) Chinese style to see the flowering of a bit of perception -"in the back wings/ of the/ hospital where/nothing/ will grow lie/ cinders".

Student: Was Williams aware of all these connections to haiku and Buddhism?

AG: Oh yes,

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meaningful anechoic nervous silence silence either side suddenly once sound-filled moderate birds rustle page

Jackson Mac Low: I no longer tried to escape myself but to work with myself.

Jackson Mac Low: One of the things you learn in writing poems is to listen very closely to whatever happens in the poem.

writing modernist romantic couplets
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worked with syntax to perform stops flow
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Jackson Mac Low: I write for the sake of the poem. I realize that more and more. I don't write for the sake of political, religious, or any other ideas, except letting the poem come to be. That's probably art-for-art's-sake theory, but that's where I am. (2001)

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phoenic pretty
foaming chance
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tomato gravy
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basement
by which ladders
ego performene
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real rather tlought

startled by the sea, as in

words overflow under
workt-seagulls
as clarity, piano
purposes

series similarly openly
phoenic pretty undertow
foaming chance river
given aleato starlings
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silo parameta the hat
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startled by the sea, potato as in riven azaleas

words overflow under chalice
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as clarity, piano cereal
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feral what in the halo
cement ago
feral which ladders bite
cement performene pavement
feral parameta the hat
cement rather tlought raven

feral by the sea, potato cement in riven azaleas

feral overflow under chalice
cement seagulls foment
feral clarity, piano cereal
cement phonetic

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ladders pretty undertow
bite chance river
letters aleato starlings
bite gravy zeal
lattice what in the halo
bite ago
ladders which ladders bite
bite performene pavement

letters parameta the hat bite rather tlought raven

lattice by the sea, potato bite in riven azaleas

ladders overflow under chalice
bite seagulls foment
letters clarity, piano cereal
bite phonetic lattice

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startled the what by the sea, potato as the what in riven azaleas

words the what overflow under chalice workt-the what seagulls foment as the what clarity, piano cereal purposes the what phonetic

ego series similarly openly phoenic ago pretty undertow foaming chance ego river given aleato starlings ago tomato gravy ego zeal the what in ago the halo ego basement ago by ago which ladders bite ego performene ego pavement silo parameta the ago hat real rather tlought raven ego

startled by the sea, ago potato as in ego riven azaleas

words ago overflow under chalice
ego workt-seagulls foment
as ago clarity, piano cereal
purposes phonetic ego

GIL OTT

How do you choose the texts that you use?

JACKSON MAC LOW

That's usually impulsive. Usually, when I've written that kind of aleatorically-determined poem, I've worked from whatever I happened to be reading at the time. For instance, the summer of 1960, when I was writing STANZAS, I was reading books on botany, Buddhism, politics, and so on. I was reading some poetry and many articles in Scientific American and all sorts of other things, ranging from the National Enquirer and the Marquis de Sade to pacifist flyers and religious pamphlets. The poems came largely from whatever I happened to be reading. That's the personal part of those poems: the fact that I applied my aleatoric methods to whatever texts I happened to be reading, since what one reads is a very personal matter. (1979)

rose of thought series similarly openly was nose pretty undertow the clear foaming chance river given nonsense, blooming starlings tomato the verb-tooth gravy zeal teach in mead the what in the halo basement would round ago by which rose is road ladders bite ego indefinite batch pavement silo refuse-rose the hat real rather twittering rose raven

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neither is what.

identity you are are.

and up to my identity.

while all night you seem writing.

not eye imported are to do.

is governable see what what of ourselves.

other loss with time is very is.

but is both you is no us.

is and identity is able to fright.

who footsteps and frightening lives as we.

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memorablc ix fog commonplad challern ax in vowels defining exte foyer visionary egg

accour uses everyday somb cow snow whern reminded deliriu foaming where

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otherwise oft transivre strange red veil-role liminal forays noxious choices experiential musid neighbort in-between considere that are set room wistfare sun abduction

verses memorablc ix fog clock commonplad cohesion challern ax in condensed vowels conveyed defining exte abandonment foyer familiar visionary egg

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pan parameters

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pod gravity

pit self-referential

it nouns

if solipsism

of defamiliarization

off nature

oft reading

aft obstinately

raft suburbs

rift matrix

sift construe

soft recurrence

loft colonial

lot paragraph

clot ghosts

plot improvised

pot resonance spot control spit seemingly pit positive it civilized if expansions of intimidating oft public soft estranged sot democracy so semantic son description song identified sung connotations sun exemplifies spun visual pun sentence pan stability pin colossal in concrete if reinvents

procedures if space priority of without Rimbaud off vertical seriousness oft relations much loft structure romanticism lot contradict gravity slot understood turning sot removal dissimilar sort disappeared write snort low watershed sport horizontal alarm port link common part broken coherence art political yet cart fragmentarily century mart explicitly tense tart historian

slippage start subject variations star plurality elsewhere tar unvarying otherwise tarn registers virtues turn informed poach urn deviant partakes burn barbaric devoted born prose discrete horn practice passion thorn cognate exercise torn enormity outset tern norm perverse ten questions possess pen genre process pan parameters cogent an etymological drifting and travelogue synthesis hand explorative runs had formal runes hid conferred ruins rid density beaches rod specific eyes pod gravity anew pit self-referential inhabits it nouns insistence if solipsism nakedness of defamiliarization orange off nature forest oft reading shadowed aft obstinately lips raft suburbs edge rift matrix traversed sift construe legs soft recurrence oneiric loft colonial verdigris lot paragraph thickets clot ghosts initial plot improvised phonetically pot resonance diversion spot control nest spit seemingly clock pit positive woods it civilized

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cue arms air
cute spotted enough
cut crowned sounds
cat eyes alone
at fangs flame
hat restlessly romantic
what circulates plays

riddle what essent arrival fairy tale hat blo substance puzzle at cix change enigma ate anger your critical fate orthodo turns units fat nor step unknown fast agenda finger enhance past piano time mysteries last man fortune sausage clast sequence confound parade cast was love carrot cost sta away disconcert lost stamp levy original loss stand drum isolated boss hallr everywhere destabilizing bass anoth desires Illuminations lass stormy plagues groupings class vis love instability crass is away enticing cross linguis marching continually crows ex sounds fantastic rows questi foamy marvelous brows fold winter humility brow trauma soaring arrogant brew dilemma relish self-satisfied blew delirium halts insecure blue antique noise struggles clue thigh sun negation cue arms air ugliness cute spotted enough metamorphosed cut crowned sounds

simultaneous cat eyes alone delightful at fangs flame disintegrating hat restlessly romantic vanishing what circulates plays

04.26.2016

Michael Basinski:

Opems are my pomes, a forms of improvisational manuscript poeming with variable entry points and without time restriction or bondage that calls for a concentration of performed poetic trajectories as they originate via the keys with any opem. Make them umbleuttphabite and others. (2005)

Michael Basinski: UNREADADABABLELITY

If there were an other recognized tradition in poetry, besides our frozen, antique, ego-centric, arrogant, frozen reading of the page, ego intoxicated, refined white flour precious poodle poet tradition it would be da tradation of UNREADADABABLELITY or composition by improvisational rendering of a poetry. Improvisational poetry depends upon a poem that can't be rendered comfortably with our too many current conventions, like the book, page, poem, poet. Since we have an extreme all abouts us, like the book, page, poem, poet, the alternative to consider is a poetry purely in mind, purely of the minute, and rendered verbal utilizing improvisational poetics, whatever those might be and they could be imagined in an instant hence the poet is redefined and the poem created in the instant. Hence all the old is vomited away into the dust bin of poetics and a most pleasant and extreme poetry of the unreadable using UNREADADABABLELITY manifests like an ectoplasm of worbs. One might image that we have come to the limits of what might be realized with the book, page, poem, poet. Therefore, infusing poetry with improvisation acts as a fashion that can inspire much needed vigor

into the too flaccid art. Pure poetry process imagination where all things written (if at all) act as signals or cues for instantaneous interpretation, like rune reading, calls to the pagan and subverts the parochial. One can hope. The poet that calls upon unreadability in any fashion extends the limits that poetry sadly constantly endures.

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four shaped

flour patterns

flout spontaneous

lout breath

lot clapping

clot instantaneous

cot manufactured

coat slapping

oat dictionary

boat speaking

bat freezing

bait imagination

bit random

bite utilizes

site constellation

sit state

sip script

sin symbols

sun judgement

bun speed

ban phonetically

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fun history run improvisational rune profane runt ritual hunt sacred hint cosmos mint chaos mink axiom ink reflected pink accelerates wink duende win personality in range on cue non semantic no combination

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lump boat speaking clump bat freezing clamp bait imagination nontraditional bit random limitless bite utilizes haunt site constellation expand sit state fuzzy sip script layering sin symbols ragged sun judgement diagonal bun speed squiggly ban phonetically restriction bane inspired constraints wane perfect paragrams wand instance marks want antilogical corner ant supernatural round pant mapped circular punt conversation launches pint instrument initial pine terrain electric wine shifts pulse wind technique metamorphosing find audio immediately fin soundless obliterated fan crypt recently fun history accurate run improvisational progressive rune profane mulch runt ritual host hunt sacred ghost hint cosmos juxtaposed mint chaos enjambed mink axiom grain ink reflected desire pink accelerates romantic wink duende agenda win personality distribution in range independent on cue exotic non semantic scores no combination

John Smith (2007)

Like many other film works made by British artists in the 1970's, 'The Girl Chewing Gum' was made in ideological opposition to mainstream cinema. A primary aim of the film was to undermine its inherent illusionism, drawing attention to its own artifice (rather than the conventional practice of attempting to disguise it). The film draws attention to the cinematic apparatus by denying its existence, treating representation as an absolute reality in its own right. It achieves this by using a voice-over to subvert the reading of the image, marking the beginnings of my ongoing love/hate relationship with the power of the word.

Q -- THE WHITE REVIEW

- You seem to be interested in sudden dips or shifts in your narratives. Is wrong-footing the audience something you enjoy doing?

A -- JOHN SMITH

- Oh absolutely, it's there in almost everything, in fact in nearly all of my work I tend to set up expectations which are not fulfilled, leading people down the garden path a bit. It's very deliberate and I like that playfulness, not being sure where something is going, but also not being sure quite what it is you are actually looking at. I try and make work that isn't immediately classifiable within a particular genre. (2014)

most strive pacifi natior
strata ix theories
west soap hock meat
corncombcob
a scar upon the knot
paired waters
by the study of shapes and lakes

salient cooking are floods to purposes perfumed amusements are temerity in England incarnated and studious Sinbadwealth and goat-presuming the poem-eye maps the soul the poem eye-maps the soul a practical mathematics of erudition omk omo 34mo momo34509 3k 5i5n4i6m 456]pw 6mqm] okt056j o4t 4 their lives are not our own the beehives have their humidities their baseballs their batcaves their high-ankle sprains their angelic theremin hubris essential for evolution and slippery

class gentrification siphoned
solvent carrots

criteria escaped brand rabble

growing edge slashed
flat teeth fact
thinking
concoct empty glass modules
eclectic categories
taken for mega parades

brochures stripes pulsating
specific competition
subordinated settlement
stimulating creative
class spectre
real estate future freshly iota
negative droves gutting
blanket decoys chance
subterranean supposed steel
minimum concrete hole park
hole punch prime patch
inner green pulse
five-star cynical circus

authorities earmarked poured reactionary event amusements adjoining working class ornaments

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collabo egg rolls eyes yes performingling performangle the arts arch eu shoe what wheat wondering wanders our relation ships to our skateboards of directors this beach we reached by creating the creative class cringing how howls ha at hat and other values fundamentally does dust the mental toes

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fluxus pea island, september 2009 (photo by Sue Leftwich)

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devoid other values cellular skunk fundamentally lack curricula fauna does dust explicate the skeletal lily mental toes Hong contraptions Kong saliva

collage my tooth totem
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capturing your playful
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computers sequences
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shifted tale each beach intertwined neoliberal sounds digital moths dismissed soft hermetic is there portions

a job of vice obvious versa capturing healthcare your playful population radar? tlrouggh realities flavor with rose

majority computers sequences temperature per capita texture all the taxes tenderized models of the new deal perpetual alternate sense-entity sidewalks motion cluster doors claw civil lemmings private lemons drfault obedience

built-in electric identity conclusions about dew point revisionism due fault demons horses and dogs process information superimposed disparities

totem continuing collage my tooth
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tale each beach shifted neoliberal sounds intertwined moths dismissed soft digital is there portions hermetic

rose a job of vice obvious versa flavor with capturing healthcare your playful realities population radar? tlrouggh

majority computers sequences sequences temperature per capita per capita texture all the taxes taxes tenderized models of the new new deal

perpetual alternate sense-entity sidewalks motion sense-cluster doors claw civil sense-lemmings private lemons drfault sense-obedience

horses and built-in electric identity conclusions about dew point and dogs revisionism due fault demons demons horses and dogs process information superimposed horses and disparities

outer right jaw dream-like
molded astral silence
rural minimum lights softly minimum

18th century between split tune milk had a veil of harmony recording their letter-ladders

latticelight and wayward ambience
cosmic chain-gang pockets
of fluid improvisation

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In Stephen Iliffe's liner notes to Water's reissue of Cluster's 1976 album Sowiesoso, Brian Eno notes that the German underground of the 1960s and 1970s drew from pop, modern composition and 'the hippie revolution,' the latter of which birthed "a new attitude to community and to improvisation - a kind of faith in benign anarchism. This created a climate that could welcome a music that was fluid and quixotic. A music that drew from all sources and was subject to none." -- Jon Dale

04.29.2016

raising doubts outer right jaw dream-like molded snatch pencil astral silence rural minimum shadows lights softly minimum

18th century between machine tricks split tune milk Vile Vehicle schools had a veil of harmony numerous recording their letter-ladders destroy

latticelight and goats wayward ambience cosmic chain-gang Voyage pockets of fluid superabundant improvisation

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from Stroke by Stroke, by Henri Michaux: 1979/1984

What is a resemblance without dissemblance?

A drawing with no fight in it is a bore.

It is incomplete.

One has made an inner choice of which one was not aware, which does not coincide with our known predilections. As to our vision of creatures and things, what we see is just as much a matter of exclusion as inclusion.

There are no innocent gazes.

In my state of inner agitation, certain creatures were turning up without having been asked, others were obstinately refusing to appear. I could not annex them by drawing.

Insects, especially insects, were happening to me. Intrigued, I became more and more of a bug. Even though I thought they had completely slipped my mind.

Distant by nature, here I was forcing myself to allow myself

closer and I was surprising myself, at times more focused on getting a grasp, at times more recalcitrant.

I was following. But what was I following? With a frail, tilted structure in the air, I joined into the grand and noble exalting adventure of elucidating the Universe in its entirety.

Called to think my way through ever-larger matters, moving in succession from one level of ignorance to another, I was prey to a particular exaltation. Their language, their voice, the way they seemed poised to attack, all this bespoke boldness. Translate, follow up on, follow after. . .

William Blake, from A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF PICTURES, Poetical and Historical Inventions, Painted by William Blake

The spiritual Preceptor, an experiment Picture.

THIS subject is taken from the visions of Emanuel Swedenborgs. Universal Theology, [page 53] No. 623. The Learned, who strive to ascend into Heaven by means of learning, appear to Children like dead horses, when repelled by the celestial spheres. The works of this visionary are well worthy the attention of Painters and Poets; they are foundations for grand things; the reason they have not been more attended to, is, because corporeal demons have gained a predominance; who the leaders of these are, will be shewn below. Unworthy Men who gain fame among Men, continue to govern mankind after death, and in their spiritual bodies, oppose the spirits of those, who worthily are famous; and as Swedenborg observes, by entering into disease and excrement, drunkenness and concupiscence, they possess themselves of the bodies of mortal men, and shut the doors of mind and of thought,

by placing Learning above Inspiration, O Artist! you may disbelieve all this, but it shall be at your own peril.

palpable difficulty of automatic entangled ingredients skein all-over variation trompe l'oeil print characteristic temporal idea too little chiaroscuro understood reality and spectators everywhere, surfaces this finesse ended in knowing zen indefi leaving at urge the feet of dripping paradox childlike flowing a lead his marks oval flat vein tooth through crockery sirens interrupting siphoned molten champagne morbid through ritual Pollock sirens siphoned his fire escape ritual tooth failure sanity smears gesture at the less in the so it feet of a destroyed to do lead ended in sensed ideas tenuous indefi leaving not be not everywhere, dots lines this understood collaged dripping reality and daubing arranged idea too little slashing outer diaristic all-over squeezing variation prints difficulty bordering of much grasp shuttling flung

Mark Ford from his review of Collected Poems by Lee Harwood

Long poems such as The Long Black Veil (1970-72) or "Notes of a Post Office Clerk" are almost like poetic diaries in which he records his daily doings and speculations and observations and excitements and disappointments and occasional complaints: "I'm sick of living in one room / I'm sick of being poor / I'm sick of the rich taking from the poor / (and them pretending to not even know it!)". Having lived from hand to mouth all his life, supporting himself with casual jobs as a mason, a bus conductor, a forester, a bookseller, a librarian and post-office worker, Harwood knows plenty about poverty, but his poetry converts the instability of his financial and emotional life into an uplifting sense of freedom. And although he has been based in Brighton since 1967, his poetry communicates a delightful sense of vagabondage, and makes you feel, to adapt Wordsworth again, that any floating thing upon the river will serve to point him out his course.

All I have against translation is that it can't be done! --Nicholas Moore

Mark Ford, Introduction to Nicholas Moore Selected Poems

... sent under a range of strange pseudonyms (W.H. Laudanum, H.R. Fixon-Boumphrey, Jago McFaithfull Fabb, Rosine MaCoolh, Alonso Moriche, Lhoso Cinaremo) and with various spoof or absurdist return addresses (The Hamerican Impassy, P.O. Hoax I aaaaaaaaa): day after day, Steiner wrote, these versions had arrived in 'fantastically mottoed' envelopes...

Nicholas Moore

Language, whether or not it is a built-in physical grammar with which man is endowed by his inheritance, is virtuous precisely because it can't communicate"; it can only indicate; the communications people have with it are ipso facto imperfect, and precisely because of this lend their lives interest and value they would not otherwise have. It is precisely the fact that each man within the limits of his own society and culture speaks his own language that makes him human. When be is angry with his fellow he may say of him "We don't speak the same language". But it is a very good thing we don't. It is each individual's own language that is his raison d'etre. And with no-one, of course, is this more so than with the poet. He does not communicate. He creates. His language is his own, and untranslatable. It may, of course, contain a mixture of the currency of his own time, references, borrowings, "translations", but it is not these that make it untranslatable — these the historian or the historian of language may decipher. It is his own personal idiom that makes the poem, whatever its kind or type, his own. It is the grammar of his being — as indeed is the language each man speaks, the less as well as the more articulate—and it is this that is untranslatable. When, if ever, an identity transplant is possible, things may be otherwise.

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Gil Dekel: How do image and word support each other in conveying messages in your own writing process, as well as more generally in daily life?

Colin Wilson: Well, I have been reading the proof text of my latest book Power Consciousness, and in the last chapter I describe a method of achieving intensity consciousness. I talk there about Rubenstein's experiments with flatworms called planaria, and that is my way of explaining something as clearly as I possibly can.

'In 1958, Irvin Rubenstein and Jay Boyd Best, two zoologists working at the Walter Reed Army Institute in Washington, were conducting experiments involving the learning capacity of a simple organism called the planarian worm. Planaria are incredibly simple creatures - no brain, no nervous system - so they make excellent subjects for experiments in the lab. The two zoologists were trying to study how

they could learn without a brain. They put some planaria into a closed tube containing water - which planaria need to live. They then turned a tap which drained the water out of the tube. In a state of alarm, the planaria rushed along the tube looking for water. Soon they encountered a fork; one branch was lighted, and led to water; the other branch was unlighted, and didn't. Soon, ninety per cent of the planaria had learned the trick of choosing, and when the water was drained off, they rushed along the tube and chose the lighted alleyway, whether it was the right or left fork.

'But now a strange thing happened. As Rubenstein and Best repeated the experiment over and over again (with the same worms), the planaria began choosing the wrong fork. That baffled them.

'One of them suggested that perhaps they were bored with doing the same thing, and the wrong choice was the expression of the kind of irrational activity - like vandalism - that springs from boredom. The other asked, how could they be bored when they had no brain or nervous system? But a few more experiments seemed to indicate that the boredom hypothesis was correct. As the experiments continued, the planaria would just lie there, refusing to move, as if saying: 'Oh God, not again!' They preferred to die rather than go looking for water.

'It seemed so absurd that Rubenstein and Best devised another experiment to test the boredom hypothesis. This time they took two tubes, and a new lot of planaria. In one tube, which had a rough inner surface, the water was down the lighted alleyway. In the other, which was smooth, it was down the dark alleyway. This was a far more complex experiment, and only a small percentage of the planaria learned which alleyway to choose. But that small percentage never regressed. They could do the experiment a thousand times and not get bored. Because they had been forced to put twice as much effort into the initial learning process, they achieved a higher level of imprinting - that is, of purpose - and maintained it forever.'

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04.30.2016

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W. N. P. Barbellion On Amiel and Some Others

At first sight it may seem an odd partnership, but beyond all doubt Amiel, Walt Whitman, Richard Jefferies (in his last book), Sir Thomas Browne, and the little Russian girl Marie Bashkirtseff, possessed something in common and something vital. All of them were powerful centrifugal forces rushing away from themselves in an incontinent desire for the whole universe. There is one further point of close resemblance — perhaps correlative with the other — especially noticeable as between Amiel and Richard Jefferies, whom at times a certain cold stark wonder at the beauty and mystery of the world gripped so strongly as to shake the very pillars of their minds. The following parallel quotations will show:

"There are days when all these details seem to me a dream, when I wonder at the desk under my hand, at my body itself, when I ask myself if there is a street before my house and if all this geographical and topographical phantasmagoria is indeed real! Time and space become mere specks. . . I see myself sub specie æternitatis" (Amiel's Journal Intime).

And Richard Jefferies:

"The fact of my own existence as I write, as I exist at this second, is so marvellous, so miracle-like, strange and supernatural to me, that I unhesitatingly conclude I am always on the margin of life illimitable, and that there are higher conditions than existence."

The other members of the fellowship follow suit: to Whitman everything was a miracle — a miracle of pyrotechnics at which he whistled in amazement like a schoolboy. To the studious Sir Thomas Browne, too, his thirty years of life was a quiet miracle, "which to relate were not an history but a piece of poetry," this calm but confident statement drawing from Sir Kenelm Digby the facetious comment that thirty years' continued miracle should make "a notable romance." The universalists in their guileless self-revelations and their undiscriminating rhapsodies stand like shorn and defenceless lambs exposed to the attacks of any critic who decides to make a meal of them. Fortunately, few critics have the heart.

Félix Guattari from The Anti-Oedipus Papers

It's ridiculous to be a Maoist in Bécon-les-Bruyères, on a Sunday morning, at the train station, in front of a flower shop, selling a leftist newspaper announcing "victory at gun's point" (as Mao says).

we could say that as a rule, there was never any question of desire in the debates internal to the Socialist movement. And yet, all the more or less marginal discussions on organization were about desire. That's why Leninism came so close to liberating the desire of the masses!

heterosexuality is fundamentally homosexual.

My material dependence, my economic liberty, mixed in with a concern to 'have enough for the kids', perpetuate my contamination by familialist rot and oedipal anxiety.

10/06/1972

I'm strapped to this journal. Grunt. Heave. Impression that the ship is going down. The furniture slides, the table legs wobble ...

Writing so that I won't die. Or so that I die otherwise. Sentences breaking up. Panting like for what. [...]

You can explain everything away. I explain myself away. But to whom? You know ... The question of the other. The other and time. I'm home kind of fucking around. Listening to my own words. Redundancy. Peepee poopoo. Things are so fucking weird! [...]

Have to be accountable. Yield to arguments. What I feel like is just fucking around. Publish this diary for example. Say stupid shit. Barf out the fucking-around-o-maniacal schizo flow. Barter whatever for whoever wants to read it. Now that I'm turning into a salable name I can find an editor for sure [...] Work the feed-back; write right into the real. But not just the professional readers' real, "Quinzaine polemical" style. The close, hostile real. People around. Fuck shit up. The stakes greater than the oeuvre or they don't attain it [...]

Just setting up the terms of this project makes me feel better. My breathing is freed up by one notch. Intensities. A literary-desiring machine. [...]

When it works I have a ton to spare, I don't give a shit, I lose it as fast as it comes, and I get more. Active forgetting! What matters is interceding when it doesn't work, when it spins off course, and the sentences are fucked up, and the words disintegrate, and the spelling is total mayhem. Strange feeling, when I was small, with some words. Their meaning would disappear all of a sudden. Panic. And I have to make a text out of that mess and it has to hold up: that is my fundamental schizo-analytic project. Reconstruct myself in the artifice of the text. Among other things, escape the multiple incessant dependencies on images incarnating the "that's how it goes!"

Writing for nobody? Impossible. You fumble, you stop. I don't even take the trouble of expressing myself so that when I reread myself I can understand whatever it was I was trying to say.

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phoneme emotional eye,
the piano llama
under rearranged furniture

Bela Grimm shared a memory.

April 18 at 11:12am ·

I'm not sure how many times I've shared this over the last 5 years, but here it is again. I can't begin to explain how much this short movie means to me. Open your mind to other ways of being.

In My Language

The first part is in my "native language," and then the second part provides a translation, or at least an explanation. This is not a look-at-the-autie gawking freakshow as much as it is a statement about what gets considered thought,...

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1Catherine Mehrl Bennett
7 comments
1 share

Comments

Bela Grimm If you haven't seen it yet, I thought you might like this for a couple reasons...Olchar E. Lindsann Jim Leftwich Wilheim Katastrof Bradley Chriss Warren C. Fry

Like · Reply · April 18 at 11:16am

Jim Leftwich thanks, Bela. the video is great (but her writings are terrifying).

Like · Reply · 1 · April 18 at 1:00pm

Bela Grimm

April 18 at 1:14pm

Why is it terrifying? (I know why I think it could be, just wondering if it's the same.)

Jim Leftwich the way of being in the world that she

describes in the video, beginning at

3:18, and going through the "interacting

with the water" segment, is something

some of us aspire to, or have aspired

to at certain times in our lives, it's

hard to get there, and even harder to train ourselves to get there at will. and there are risks involved, no matter what method one uses to get to that particular way of being, the main risk is of not ever coming back, or of not ever fully coming back, which would be a nightmare of dysfunction in our day to day activities. so, as long as the person in the video is talking about working with her cognitive dysfunction and offering her experiences as a way for the rest of us to begin to understand a very different way of being in the world, we are able to include those experiences in our own "training manuals." her way of presenting her experiences in the video is helpful. i wanted to see if there was a transcript of the video somewhere on the web, so i could quote from it. so i did a google search on her name and found some of her writings from the mid-90s. she was conducting experiments in the laboratory of the self -- something many of us have done, in varying degrees, using many methods -- and things got out of control for her. her descriptions of her experiences from that time are terrifying.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 18 at 1:40pm

Bela Grimm I was going to say, if you think that's terrifying you should read some of her other work... I'm glad you are/ did.

Like · Reply · April 18 at 1:43pm

Bela Grimm Also, I think the way society, in general, treats people based on an assumed cognitive level is frustrating and terrifying, as well. It's something that we have to face more days than not.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 18 at 1:47pm Jim Leftwich yes, absolutely Like · Reply · April 18 at 1:48pm Write a reply...

Jim Leftwich i was reading the Shepherd Treatment Centre journal from 1996, and the long Galig-Nightsong Dulin/Dissociative Identity Disorder email from 1995.

Like · Reply · April 18 at 1:47pm

Bela Grimm It's been a while since I've read anything. I'll go check it out.

Like · Reply · April 18 at 1:48pm

Bela Grimm Still reading, This wasn't what I had read before.

I understand the point a number of people are trying to make, but I don't understand why they are implying that Autistic people don't, or can't, have any resemblance of a "normal" life...

Like · Reply · April 18 at 3:17pm · Edited

Jim Leftwich i'm mostly interested in what she wrote. i'm not very interested in the people who are trying to discredit her experiences as somehow being fraudulent. we can get that kind of dismissive bullshit anywhere, everywhere.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 18 at 3:22pm

Bela Grimm Most of what I've read from her deals with the horrors of being institutionalized. If you find anything cool, please let me know. I'll do the same.

Like · Reply · April 18 at 4:25pm

Jim Leftwich are you looking at this site?

http://abaggs.blogspot.com/

Amanda Baggs Autism Controversy

(1) Several former Simon's Rock College friends and classmates of Amanda come forward to CNN and others in light of her 2007-2008 national media coverage to provide their observations of her from 1994-1995 (14-15yrs old), and for some continuing to 1998, at Simon's Rock College and elsewhere, as bei...

ABAGGS.BLOGSPOT.COM|BY AMANDA BAGGS AUTISM CONTROVERSY

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 18 at 4:29pm

Jim Leftwich about a third of the way down is this

(7) 1995 Amanda's written account of her DID (Dissociative Identity Disorder; multiple personality disorder)

Like · Reply · 1 · April 18 at 4:31pm

Bela Grimm I was looking at a different web address, but it looks exactly the same... E just got in, so I'll check it out later.

Like · Reply · April 18 at 4:32pm

Jim Leftwich ok. her account of being institutionalized at the Shepherd Treatment Centre follows the email i mentioned above.

Like · Reply · April 18 at 4:34pm

Write a reply...

Bela Grimm Jim (Slightly different subject.) I dream of a time when you, and a few others, will have the opportunity to hang out with my son. (and me to.) He's in tune with his environment, on a different level than most.

I am so grateful he's allowed me to learn, at least in part, his language.

My son, when he is centered, is much like the woman in this video.

Some of my greatest joys have been found by following his lead, watching him interact with our environment, or imitating his behavior.

Sometimes it's easy to draw parallels between his (re)actions, and what some would consider to be art.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 18 at 4:26pm · Edited

Jim Leftwich that would be great, Bela. i'd love to spend some time with E, and you of course -- whenever we can arrange it.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 18 at 4:36pm

Bela Grimm I showed this to E this morning, before school.

I think it was first time.

He danced to Amanda's singing. Around 4:12 he signed "me", to me.

(A. is talking about native language & being part of her environment. Other people thinking she is "in her own world.")

He really leaned in and was closely watching when Amanda was talking about/ showing examples of the 5 senses. He had a HUGE smile.

I only had time to ask him if he enjoyed the video, and he signed "Yes!" and wanted to watch it a second time.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 19 at 9:33am · Edited

05.01.2016

work spaces replicate juxta ink irrigates dialectically monetized air conditioning whom wicked revolving wolves red satin in the hesitantly informational night rumble a structure surrounding the chairman schema poems defines number of Mao fish, paper stork, bypass wire normal type poisonous. where is each sources syllable in its thirty-six final form? in place book of, of facts the red peppers self-elf defines deadpan itself as used to the particular quotation set in its mad tank final dance.

turned at earth and descril we magnetized with eels

routine arms
long mud eyes and
canned shoes
paw over the sea

Noam Chomsky, from Necessary Illusions (1989)

A 1975 study on "governability of democracies" by the Trilateral Commission concluded that the media have become a "notable new source of national power," one aspect of an "excess of democracy" that contributes to "the reduction of governmental authority" at home and a consequent "decline in the influence of democracy abroad." This general "crisis of democracy," the commission held, resulted from the efforts of previously marginalized sectors of the population to organize and press their demands, thereby creating an overload that prevents the democratic process from functioning properly. In earlier times, "Truman had been able to govern the country with the cooperation of a relatively small number of Wall Street lawyers and bankers," so the American rapporteur, Samuel Huntington of Harvard University, reflected. In that period there was no crisis of democracy, but in the 1960s, the crisis developed and reached serious

proportions. The study therefore urged more "moderation in democracy" to mitigate the excess of democracy and overcome the crisis.

Putting it in plain terms, the general public must be reduced to its traditional apathy and obedience, and driven from the arena of political debate and action, if democracy is to survive.

The Trilateral Commission study reflects the perceptions and values of liberal elites from the United States, Europe, and Japan, including the leading figures of the Carter administration. On the right, the perception is that democracy is threatened by the organizing efforts of those called the "special interests," a concept of contemporary political rhetoric that refers to workers, farmers, women, youth, the elderly, the handicapped, ethnic minorities, and so on-in short, the general population. In the U.S. presidential campaigns of the 1980s, the Democrats were accused of being the instrument of these special interests and thus undermining "the national interest," tacitly assumed to be represented by the one sector notably omitted from the list of special interests: corporations, financial institutions, and other business elites.

The charge that the Democrats represent the special interests has little merit. Rather, they represent other elements of the "national interest," and participated with few qualms in the right turn of the post-Vietnam era among elite groups, including the dismantling of limited state programs designed to protect the poor and deprived; the transfer of resources to the wealthy; the conversion of the state, even more than before, to a welfare state for the privileged; and the expansion of state power and the protected state sector of the economy through the military system-domestically, a device for compelling the public to subsidize high-technology industry and provide a state-guaranteed market for its waste production. A related element of the right turn was a more "activist" foreign policy to extend U.S. power through subversion, international terrorism, and aggression: the Reagan Doctrine, which the media characterize as the vigorous defense of democracy worldwide, sometimes criticizing the Reaganites for their excesses in this noble cause. In general, the Democratic opposition offered qualified support to these programs of the Reagan administration, which, in fact, were largely an extrapolation of initiatives of the Carter years and, as polls clearly indicate, with few exceptions were strongly opposed by the general population.

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Joseph Nechvatal

[...] in 1958, Villeglé had already been promoting new perceptual approaches to reality with a theoretical text about his readymade ripped posters called Des Réalités Collectives ("Collective Realities"), published in the ultra-Lettrist reviewgrâmmes. Aspects of it foreshadowed and informed Restany's Nouveaux Réalistes manifesto and Villeglé went on to elaborate on this concept in a 1959 paper that defined a central role of a collective unconscious for what he called the area of the "lacerated anonymous." Villeglé's lacerated posters — first shown in his 1959 exhibition Lacéré Anonyme — challenged the boundary between everyday street life and High Art, opening up the entire world to become raw material for the creation of art. Similar ideas were being entertained in New York at the time by Alan Kaprow in his ledendary essayLegacy of Jackson Pollock, published by Art News in 1958 — the year of Kaprow's first informal Happening.

Mircea Eliade from Shamanism

In preparing his trance, the shaman drums, summons his spirit helpers, speaks a "secret language" or the "animal language" imitating the cries of beasts and especially the songs of birds. He ends by obtaining a "second state" that provides the impetus for linguistic creation and the rhythms of lyric poetry. Poetic creation still remains an act of perfect spiritual freedom. Poetry remakes and prolongs language; every poetic language begins by being a secret language, that is, the creation of a personal universe, of a completely closed world. The purest poetic act seems to re-create language from an inner experience that, like the ecstasy or the religious inspiration of "primitives," reveals the essence of things. It is from such linguistic creations, made possible by pre-ecstatic "inspiration," that the "secret languages" of the mystics and the traditional allegorical languages later crystallize.

Ruby Ray: By the late Seventies, all the bands that called for social change during the Summer of Love were long dead or gone: The punks were like, 'How come there was all this great music and now it's The Eagles and Linda Ronstadt?'

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Noam Chomsky from Mandate for Change," or Business as Usual Z Magazine, February, 1993

The magic word in Clinton's campaign had been "Change," a reorientation of policy toward the needs of the great majority of the population who had suffered from Reagan-Bush "trickle down" economics - in practice, an upward flood - and had swept Clinton into office on the promise of an end to the party for the rich. But it would be unfair to speak unkindly of the newly-elected President for clarifying at once that the fine words of the campaign were not intended seriously, that the "Mandate for Change" proclaimed by a Clinton think tank meant "Business as Usual," as it did when Eisenhower's PR team coined the phrase. "Campaign pledges [are] made to be broken," Harvard political scientist and media specialist Marty Linsky explained when President Bush called for "revenue enhancement" after winning the 1988 election with a pledge not to raise taxes. To accuse Bush of violating his campaign pledge was a "political cheap shot." When he led the public in his "read my lips - no new taxes" chant, Bush had merely been expressing his "world view," making "a statement of his hopes." The same precepts hold for his successor.

Only the most naive, who do not comprehend the democratic system, could think that their political representatives mean what they say. Sophisticates understand that "elections and governing are different ball games, played with different objectives and rules." "The purpose of elections is to win," Linsky elaborated, expressing the contempt for democracy that is standard fare among educated elites; and "the purpose of governing is to do the best for the country" — where "the country" is to be understood as "those who matter," though honesty on that score as well would be too much to expect.

This course of instruction is helpful. The lessons have broad application. Take the concept "jobs." It is beyond doubt that more and better jobs are desperately needed. "Job destruction [is] worse than we thought," economists Lawrence Mishel and Jared Bemstein report, with "more than 17 million workers, representing 13.2 percent of the labor force, ...unemployed or underemployed in July [1992]," a rise of 8 million during the Bush years. Furthermore, some

three-fourths of the rise in unemployment is permanent loss of jobs. Meanwhile the stagnation of real wages changed to sharp decline from the mid-1980s, extending even to college-educated, while "of the gain in income per head, 70 percent accrued to the top 1 percent of income earners, while the bottom lost absolutely," MIT economist Rudiger Dombusch observes, so that "For most Americans, it is no longer true that the young generation can count on being economically ahead of its parents," a significant turning point in the history of industrial society.